

From the Editors

The first issue of *The Victorian Naturalist* for 2009 is something of a landmark. According to the most recent count, this issue is number 1301 in an almost unbroken sequence that began with number 1 in January 1884. In between these two issues there have been occasional hiccups in the numbering process (although considering the period of publication, the number of issues, and the process of production, remarkably few). As with almost all serial publications, *The Victorian Naturalist* has had at least one episode of mis-numbering. This occurred early in the sequence. The first volume (January 1884 to May 1885) consisted of 16 issues; but the first issue of volume 2 was mistakenly also numbered 16. The problem was soon rectified, with issue 2 being made number 18. The 1000th issue of *The Victorian Naturalist* was published in April 1967.

The most recent count, referred to above, came about as part of the process of compiling a digital archive of the journal. The first stage of this project—comprising volumes 1 to 70—was completed late in 2008. A digital copy of these volumes is now available on DVD (see details on page 22).

This issue continues the tradition, now more than 1300 issues long, of presenting the results of recent research in the widest range of natural history. The current editors are proud to be part of that very long and great tradition.

The Victorian Naturalist
is published six times per year by the

Field Naturalists Club of Victoria Inc

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